

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. – 3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) A watercraft capable of towing a water sport implement comprising:

a hull;

a deck disposed on the hull;

a support surface on the deck adapted to support a water sport implement and a performer of the water sport to allow the performer to put on the water sport implement; [[and]]

a slanted surface on the adjacent to the support surface;

the slanted surface providing clearance for a fin of the water sport implement laid on the support surface; and

a first abutment secured to the deck and protruding with respect to the support surface, such that the water sport implement laid on the support surface may abut against the first abutment to aid the performer in putting on the water sport implement.

5. (Original) The watercraft according to claim 4, further comprising:

a second abutment secured to the deck;

the second abutment protruding from the support surface and spaced apart from the first abutment,

wherein the water sport implement laid on the support surface may be held captive between the first and second abutments to aid the performer in putting on the water sport implement.

6. (Original) The watercraft according to claim 4, wherein the support surface is positioned at the stern of the watercraft, and the first abutment is aft of the support surface with respect to the watercraft.

7. (Original) The watercraft according to claim 5, further comprising:  
a third abutment secured to the deck;  
the third abutment protruding from the support surface and spaced apart from the first abutment,  
wherein the second and third abutments are positioned port and starboard of the first abutment respectively.
8. (Canceled)
9. (Original) The watercraft according to claim 5, wherein the first and second abutments consist of a resilient material.
10. (Original) The watercraft according to claim 7, wherein the water sport implement laid on the support surface may be held captive between the first and third abutments to aid the performer in putting on the water sport implement.
11. (New) A watercraft comprising:  
a bow;  
a stern;  
a hull;  
a deck disposed on the hull;  
a support surface on the deck;  
a first abutment secured to the deck and protruding with respect to the support surface; and  
a second abutment secured to the deck, such that a straight line extending through the first and second abutments parallel to the support surface is skewed relative to a longitudinal axis of the watercraft and such that a water sport implement laid on the support surface may be held captive between the first and second abutments to aid a performer in putting on the water sport implement.
12. (New) The watercraft of claim 11, wherein the support surface is positioned at the stern of the watercraft.

13. (New) The watercraft of claim 11, wherein the deck has a generally vertically extending surface and the second abutment is secured to the generally vertically extending surface.

14. (New) The watercraft of claim 11, further comprising a third abutment secured to the deck.

15. (New) The watercraft of claim 14, wherein the second abutment is disposed port of the first abutment and the third abutment is disposed starboard of the first abutment.

16. (New) A watercraft comprising:

- a bow;

- a stern;

- a hull;

- a deck disposed on the hull;

- a support surface on the deck and positioned at the stern of the watercraft;

- a first abutment secured to the deck on a longitudinal centerline of the watercraft and protruding from the support surface; and

- a second abutment secured to the deck to one side of the longitudinal centerline,

- one of the first and second abutments being disposed closer to the stern of the watercraft than the other one of the first and second abutments, such that a water sport implement laid on the support surface may be held captive between the first and second abutments to aid a performer in putting on the water sport implement.

17. (New) The watercraft of claim 16, further comprising a third abutment secured to the deck to another side of the longitudinal centerline.

18. (New) The watercraft of claim 17, wherein a distance between the stern and the third abutment is equal to a distance between the stern and the second abutment.